मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटन स्थलों का विकास

22. **श्रीमती रत्न कुमारी:** क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश के कतिपय पर्यटक स्थलों का दौरा करने वाले विदेशी पर्यटकों की संख्या में उल्लेखनीय कमी आयी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके मुख्य कारण क्या हैं; और

(ग) मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटक स्थलों पर विदेशी पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार क्या प्रभावी कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिंधिया): (क) से (ग) विशिष्ट गंतव्य-स्थलों की यात्रा करने वाले विदेशी पर्यटकों के आकंड़े विभाग में उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। पर्यटकों की अपनी-अपनी अभिरुचियां हैं। परन्तु इस बात की संभावना है कि कुछ गंतव्य-स्थलों में विदेशी पर्यटकों के आगमन में गिरावट आई होगी तो अन्य स्थानों पर वृद्धि भी हुई होगी।

Increasing the inflow of Foreign Tourists

23. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of foreign tourists who had arrived in the country during the last one year till date;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned through these tourists during the same period; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to increase the inflow of foreign tourists in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) During the calender year 1991 (January-December), 1,677,461 foreign tourists visited the country.

(b) The amount of foreign exchange earned from the tourists during the above period is provisionally estimated to be Rs. 2918 crores.

(c) The steps proposed to be taken to increase the flow of foreign tourists to the country include intensive development of special tourism areas, improvement of infrastructural facilities and effective overseas publicity efforts.

Setting up of Hotels by the side of National Highways

24. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the tremendous tourist potentiality of Orissa State;

(b) whether there is also a growing need for accommodation and Petrol/diesel pumps, restaurants by the side of National Highways besides at places of tourist importance; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken/proposed to be taken jointly with other Central Government Departments if any, to assist and encourage local people to set-up Hotels and Petrol-Pumps/Diesel pumps by the side of National Highway in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir.

(c) There is a scheme under the Ministry of Surface Transport under which private entrepreneurs are encouraged to set-up wayside facilities along National Highways for which as an incentive Petrol/Diesel retail outlets are provided.

Calendar Published by Air India

25. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Calendar Sheet for the month of January, 1992 published by Air India, exhibits 'Hand' a symbol of a political party at the central place;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for selecting such a sample by a Public Sector Undertaking as it connotes publicity of a political party; and

(c) what action is proposed to be taken against the officers responsible for such selection and publication?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The theme of the Calendar of Air India for the year 1992 is 'Ethnic Vocations'. 12 popular Indian vocations